

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
SAN JOSE DIVISION

SATISH RAMACHANDRAN,  
Plaintiff,  
  
v.  
CITY OF LOS ALTOS, et al.,  
Defendants.

Case No. 18-cv-01223-VKD  
Case No. 23-cv-02928-SVK

**ORDER DETERMINING CASES ARE  
NOT RELATED**

Re: Dkt. No. 348

On June 14, 2023, Judge van Keulen referred Case No. 23-cv-2928 for consideration of whether it is related to Case No. 18-cv-1223. *See* Civil L. R. 3-12(c); Dkt. No. 347. The Court has received responses from the defendants in Case No. 23-cv-2928, the City of Los Altos and its employees (“City defendants”), and Pamela Jacobs. Dkt. Nos. 349; 350. It has not received a response from Mr. Ramachandran. The City defendants argue that Case No. 23-cv-2928 should be related to Case No. 18-cv-1223 because the two cases concern substantially the same parties and events. Dkt. No. 349 at 4. Ms. Jacobs argues that Case No. 18-cv-1223 should be related to Case No. 20-cv-03693, another case filed by Mr. Ramachandran and heard by Judge Freeman. Dkt. No. 350.

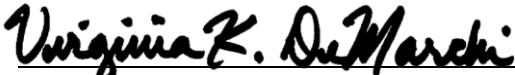
While the allegations and defendants in all three of Mr. Ramachandran’s cases overlap, the Court determines that Case No. 23-cv-2928 should not be related to Case No. 18-cv-1223, as relating the cases will not avoid “an unduly burdensome duplication of labor and expense or conflicting results if the cases are conducted before different Judges.” *See* Civil L. R. 3-12(a)(2). Case No. 18-cv-1223 is currently stayed pending the conclusion of additional litigation in state court. *See* Dkt. No. 336. That litigation appears close to resolution and the City defendants claim

1 it will have a “potentially dispositive effect” on Case No. 18-cv-1223 once it is complete. Dkt.  
2 No. 345 at 2. If Case No. 18-cv-1223 is indeed nearing its end, then there is little reason to expect  
3 that relating Case No. 23-cv-2928 to it would avoid duplication of labor or increase efficiency.  
4 *See Carlyle Fortran Tr. v. NVIDIA Corp.*, No. C 05-00427 JW, 2008 WL 4717467, at \*1 (N.D.  
5 Cal. Oct. 24, 2008) (declining to relate in part where allegedly related cases were inactive or on  
6 appeal); *Rezner v. Bayerische Hypo-Und Vereinsbank AG*, No. C 06-02064 JW, 2009 WL  
7 3458704, at \*1 (N.D. Cal. Oct. 23, 2009) (declining to relate in part where allegedly related cases  
8 were stayed pending mediation or closed on appeal).

9 Accordingly, the Court determines that Case No. 23-cv-2928 and Case No. 18-cv-1223 are  
10 not related within the meaning of Civil Local Rule 3-12.

11 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

12 Dated: June 26, 2023

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15 VIRGINIA K. DEMARCHI  
16 United States Magistrate Judge  
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